BLIZZARD ENTERTAINMENT
#1
WORLD OF WARCRAFT
LEGION
DARK HORSE COMICS
MAGNI
FAULT LINES
MATT BURNS • LUDO LULLABI

MAGNI
FAULT LINES

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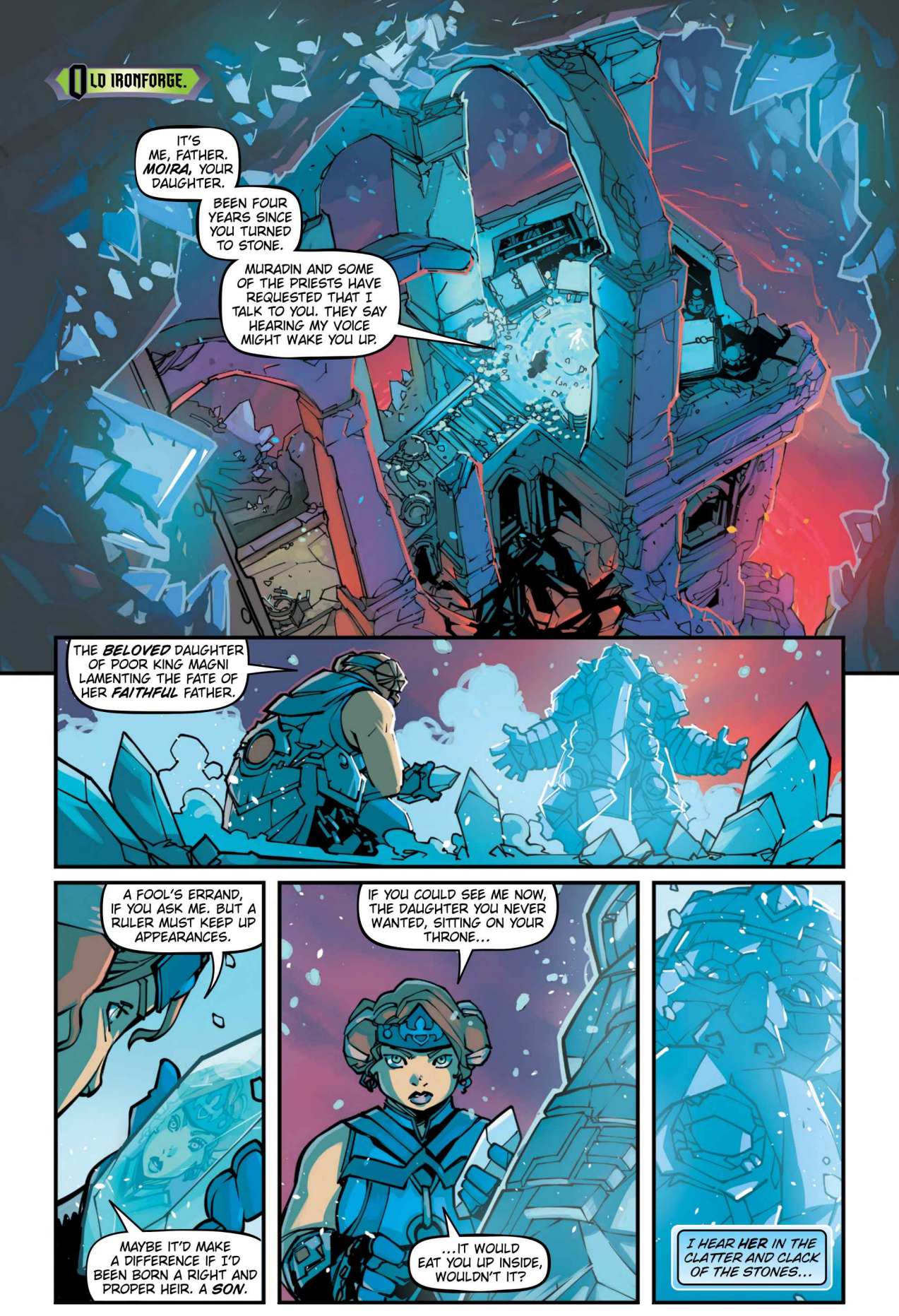
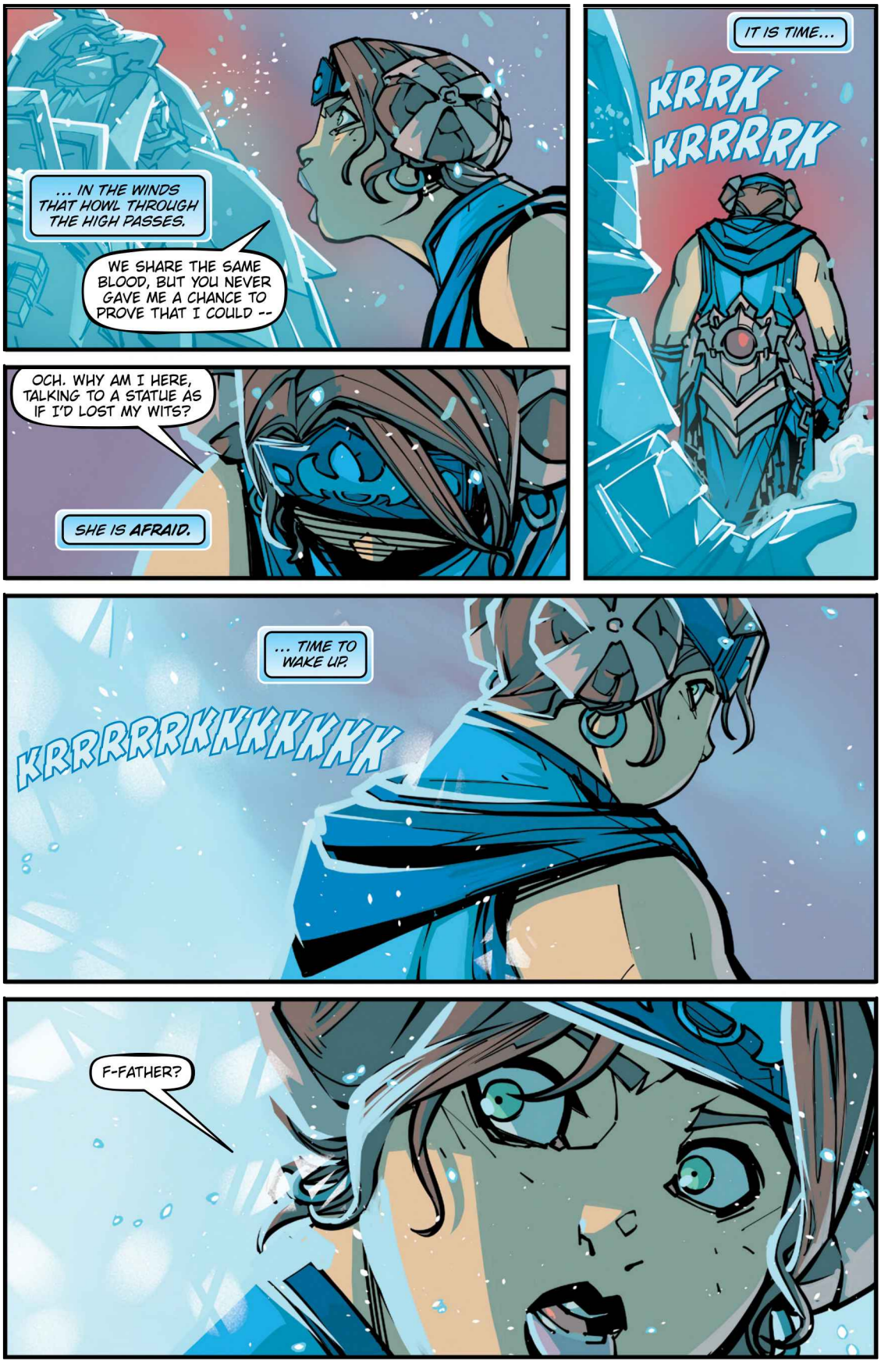
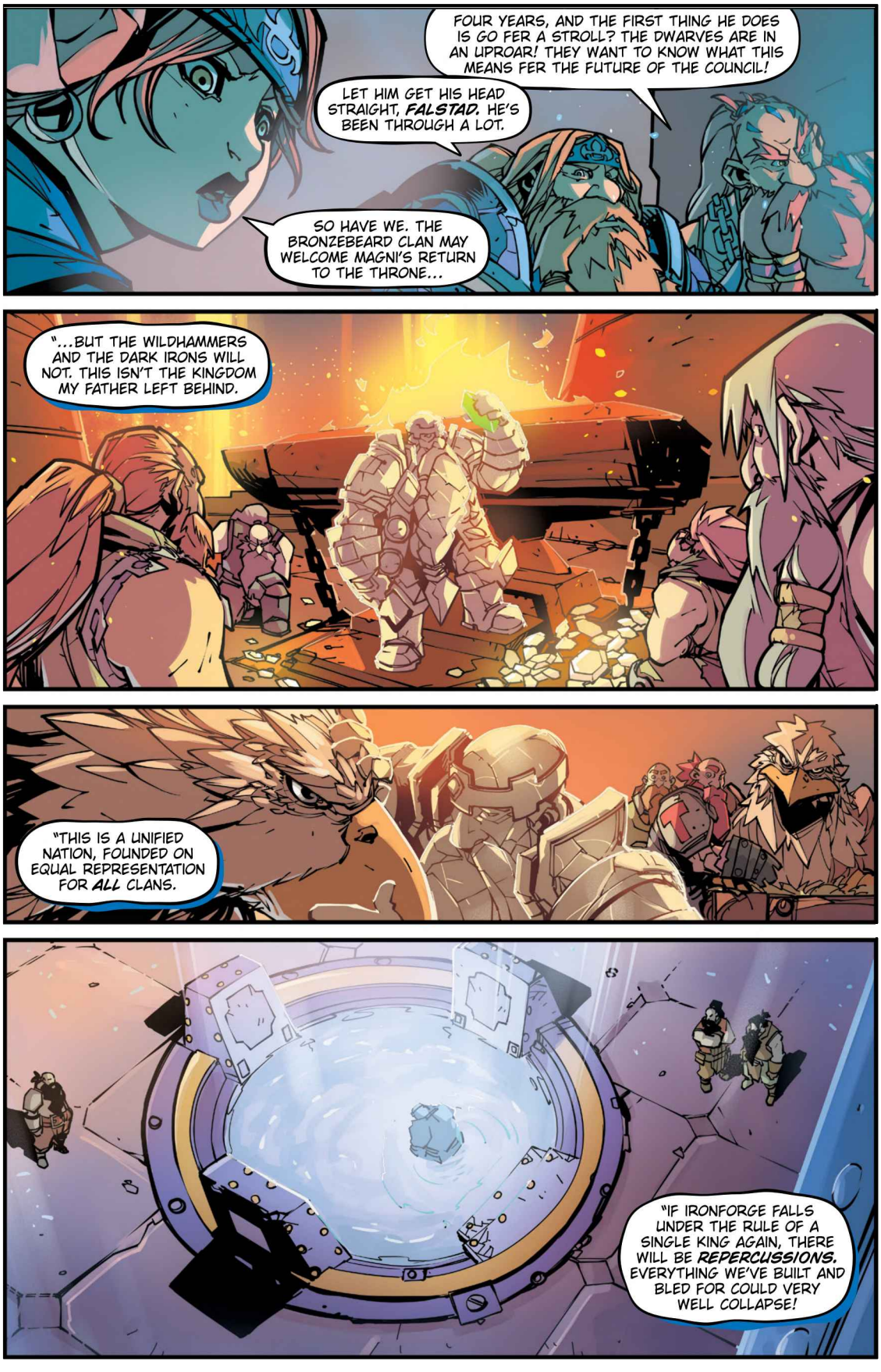
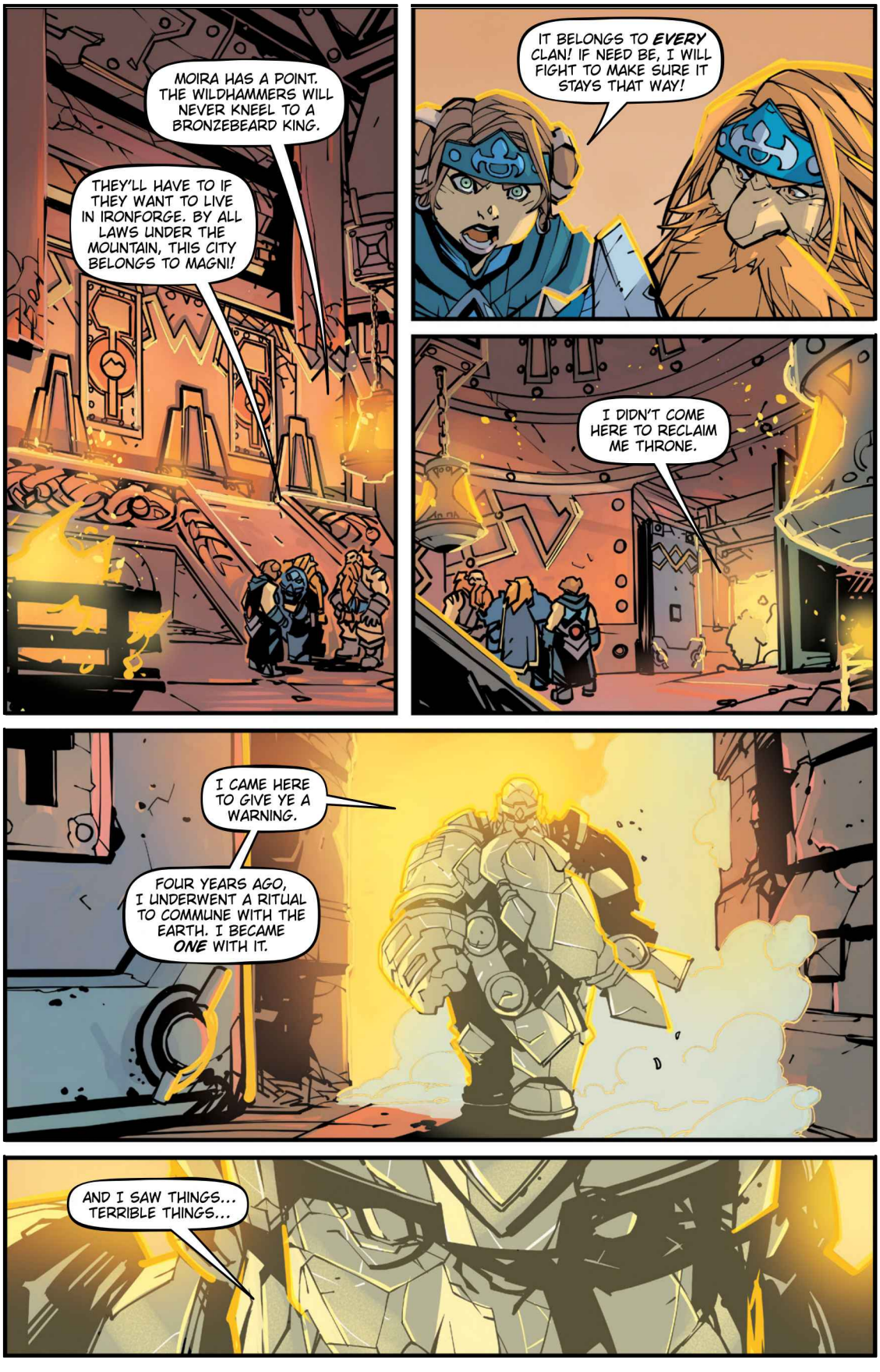
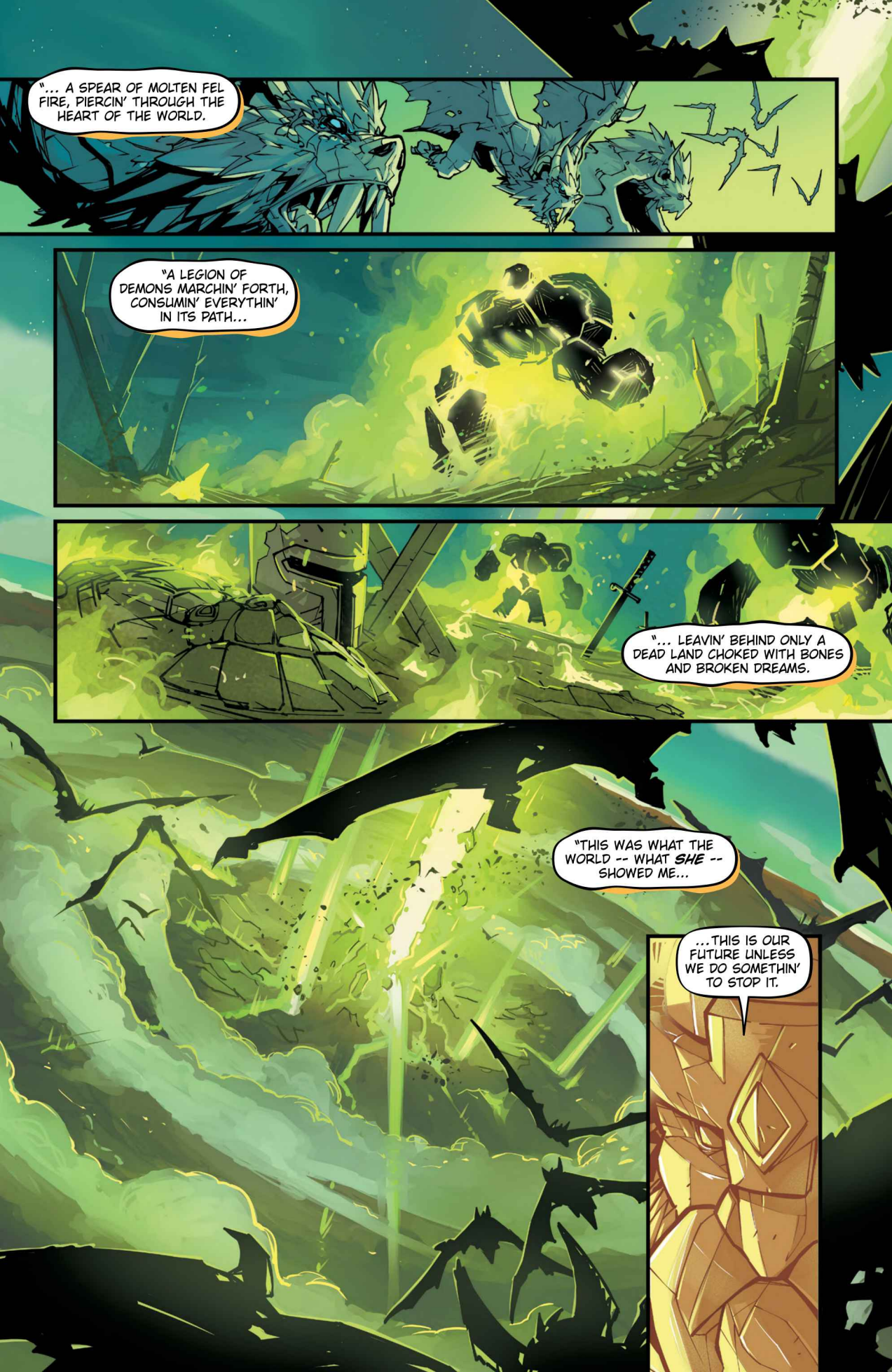

OLD IRONFORGE.
IT'S ME, FATHER. MOIRA, YOUR DAUGHTER.
BEEN FOUR YEARS SINCE YOU TURNED TO STONE.
MURADIN AND SOME OF THE PRIESTS HAVE REQUESTED THAT I TALK TO YOU. THEY SAY HEARING MY VOICE MIGHT WAKE YOU UP.
THE BELOVED DAUGHTER OF POOR KING MAGNI LAMENTING THE FATE OF HER FAITHFUL FATHER.
A FOOL'S ERRAND, IF YOU ASK ME. BUT A RULER MUST KEEP UP APPEARANCES.
MAYBE IT'D MAKE A DIFFERENCE IF I'D BEEN BORN A RIGHT AND PROPER HEIR. A SON.
IF YOU COULD SEE ME NOW, THE DAUGHTER YOU NEVER WANTED, SITTING ON YOUR THRONE...
...IT WOULD EAT YOU UP INSIDE, WOULDN'T IT?
I HEAR HER IN THE CLATTER AND CLACK OF THE STONES...

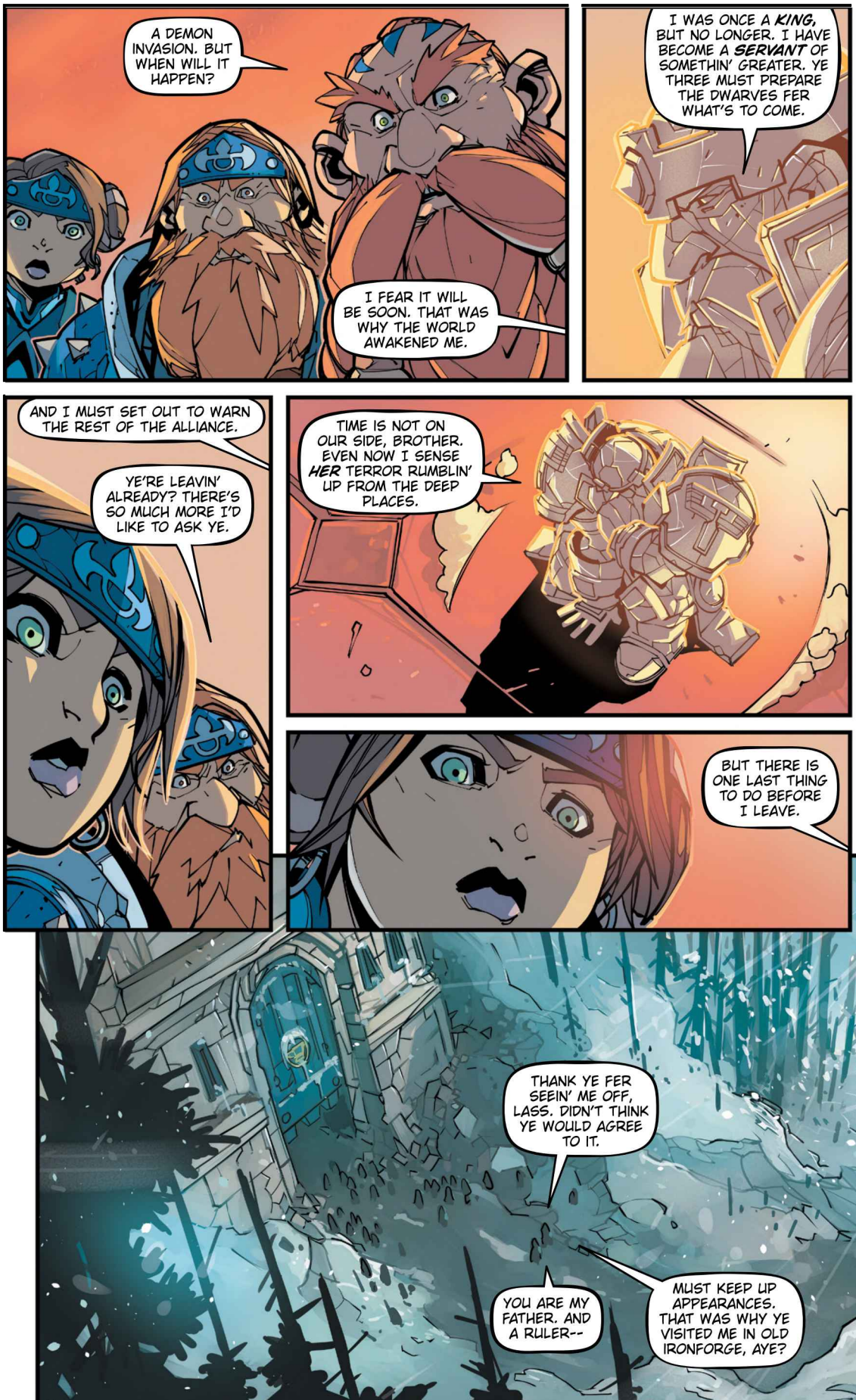

... IN THE WINDS THAT HOWL THROUGH THE HIGH PASSES.
WE SHARE THE SAME BLOOD, BUT YOU NEVER GAVE ME A CHANCE TO PROVE THAT I COULD --
IT IS TIME...
KRRK KRRRRK
OCH. WHY AM I HERE, TALKING TO A STATUE AS IF I'D LOST MY WITS?
SHE IS AFRAID.
... TIME TO WAKE UP.
KRRRRRKKKKKKK
F-FATHER?

LATER.
THE KING UNDER THE MOUNTAIN HAS RETURNED! MAGNI HAS AWAKENED!
HEAR HE'S MADE OF STONE. LIKE AN EARTHEN.
KING? HE'S NOT ME KING.
THE COUNCIL OF THREE HAMMERS, YE SAY?
AYE. FORMED TO RULE IN YER STEAD, BROTHER. MUCH HAS CHANGED IN THE CITY.
AND IN ME, TOO, MURADIN. I'M STILL WHO I WAS BEFORE, BUT I'M ALSO SOMETHIN' ELSE.
WE TRIED EVERYTHIN' TO BRING YE BACK. HOW'D YE FINALLY GET FREE?
BECAUSE... SHE TOLD ME IT WAS TIME.
SHE?
MOIRA?
NO.
I HAVE MUCH TO EXPLAIN AND DISCUSS. BUT FIRST I MUST SEE ME CITY.
TAKE YER TIME, MY KING. WE WILL AWAIT YE AT THE HIGH SEAT.


FOUR YEARS, AND THE FIRST THING HE DOES IS GO FER A STROLL? THE DWARVES ARE IN AN UPROAR! THEY WANT TO KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS FER THE FUTURE OF THE COUNCIL!
LET HIM GET HIS HEAD STRAIGHT, FALSTAD. HE'S BEEN THROUGH A LOT.
SO HAVE WE. THE BRONZEBEARD CLAN MAY WELCOME MAGNI'S RETURN TO THE THRONE...
"...BUT THE WILDHAMMERS AND THE DARK IRONS WILL NOT. THIS ISN'T THE KINGDOM MY FATHER LEFT BEHIND.
"THIS IS A UNIFIED NATION, FOUNDED ON EQUAL REPRESENTATION FOR ALL CLANS.
"IF IRONFORGE FALLS UNDER THE RULE OF A SINGLE KING AGAIN, THERE WILL BE REPERCUSSIONS. EVERYTHING WE'VE BUILT AND BLED FOR COULD VERY WELL COLLAPSE!


MOIRA HAS A POINT. THE WILDHAMMERS WILL NEVER KNEEL TO A BRONZEBEARD KING.
THEY'LL HAVE TO IF THEY WANT TO LIVE IN IRONFORGE. BY ALL LAWS UNDER THE MOUNTAIN, THIS CITY BELONGS TO MAGNI!
IT BELONGS TO EVERY CLAN! IF NEED BE, I WILL FIGHT TO MAKE SURE IT STAYS THAT WAY!
I DIDN'T COME HERE TO RECLAIM ME THRONE.
I CAME HERE TO GIVE YE A WARNING.
FOUR YEARS AGO, I UNDERWENT A RITUAL TO COMMUNE WITH THE EARTH. I BECAME ONE WITH IT.
AND I SAW THINGS... TERRIBLE THINGS...


"... A SPEAR OF MOLTEN FEL FIRE, PIERCIN' THROUGH THE HEART OF THE WORLD.
"A LEGION OF DEMONS MARCHIN' FORTH, CONSUMIN' EVERYTHIN' IN ITS PATH...
"... LEAVIN' BEHIND ONLY A DEAD LAND CHOKED WITH BONES AND BROKEN DREAMS.
"THIS WAS WHAT THE WORLD -- WHAT SHE -- SHOWED ME...
...THIS IS OUR FUTURE UNLESS WE DO SOMETHIN' TO STOP IT.

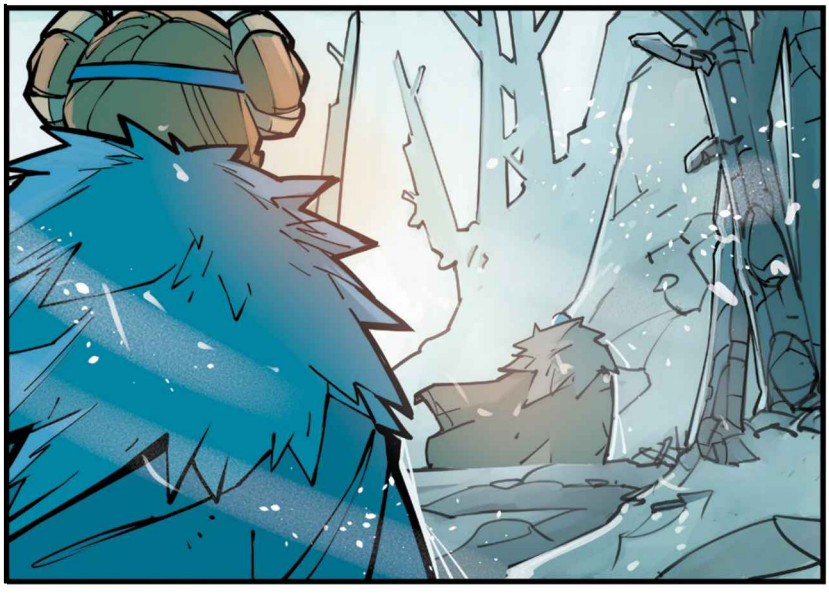

A DEMON INVASION. BUT WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN?
I FEAR IT WILL BE SOON. THAT WAS WHY THE WORLD AWAKENED ME.
I WAS ONCE A KING, BUT NO LONGER. I HAVE BECOME A SERVANT OF SOMETHIN' GREATER. YE THREE MUST PREPARE THE DWARVES FER WHAT'S TO COME.
AND I MUST SET OUT TO WARN THE REST OF THE ALLIANCE.
YE'RE LEAVIN' ALREADY? THERE'S SO MUCH MORE I'D LIKE TO ASK YE.
TIME IS NOT ON OUR SIDE, BROTHER. EVEN NOW I SENSE HER TERROR RUMBLIN' UP FROM THE DEEP PLACES.
BUT THERE IS ONE LAST THING TO DO BEFORE I LEAVE.
THANK YE FER SEEIN' ME OFF, LASS. DIDN'T THINK YE WOULD AGREE TO IT.
YOU ARE MY FATHER. AND A RULER--
MUST KEEP UP APPEARANCES. THAT WAS WHY YE VISITED ME IN OLD IRONFORGE, AYE?

YOU... YOU HEARD ME?
I SAW YE, TOO. ALL THESE YEARS, I'VE WATCHED YE GROW INTO A LEADER...

... AND I COULDN'T BE PROUDER OF WHAT YE'VE BECOME.
I FAILED YE AS A FATHER BEFORE. I'LL NEVER FERGIVE MESELF FER THAT, AND I'M NOT ASKIN' YE TO FERGIVE ME EITHER.

BUT IF EVEN STONE CAN COME TO LIFE... IF EVEN THREE RIVAL CLANS CAN LIVE UNDER ONE ROOF... THEN MAYBE WE CAN BE A FAMILY AGAIN.
THAT IS, IF YE'LL GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE.

THINK IT OVER, LASS. I DON'T EXPECT AN ANSWER NOW. JUST KNOW THAT WHEREVER THIS JOURNEY TAKES ME, I'LL BE WATCHIN' YE THROUGH THE STONES.



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